

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. The closest prior art of reference is taught by Eder (US 4,594,123).

Eder teaches a device for positioning a tubular label at a pre-established height from a bottle bottom in a rotating labeling machine of a type equipped with:

- a drum (7), beneath where a tubular label (2) is formed on the bottle (1) and adapted to support the bottle on an upper base, where the drum allowing some vertical translation, with assistance from vertically reciprocable bells (10), in order to take the bottle inside the tubular label (column 3, lines 18-63; Figure 3),
  - the drum provides lugs (i.e. stopper members) (27) placed at a height from the bottle bottom on the upper base of the drum, when the bottle is housed on the drum (Figures 1 and 4), the stopper members arranged to allow precise fitting of the bottle.
3. However, the prior art does not teach the claimed configuration of the stopper members, comprising vertical walls, and arranged as a semi-circle.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SONYA MAZUMDAR whose telephone number is

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(571)272-6019. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:30 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Philip Tucker can be reached on (571) 272-1095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sonya Mazumdar/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1745